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a common partition defined in said at least one physical storage device storing common data which is accessible to said first and second users;

B2 a first partition defined in said at least one physical storage device storing first update data provided by said first user representing changes to the common data in first user selected data fields in said common partition without storing unchanged common data, said first update data in said first partition is at least partially inaccessible to said second user; and

means for selectively merging said first update data into said common partition at a desired time so as to replace the common data in said first user selected data fields with said first update data.

### REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the opportunity of discussing the case with Examiner Robertson on September 8, 1997. Consistent with such discussion, Applicant amended claims 61 and 82.

Applicant notes that there is a copending CIP application serial no. 08/633,839 in which an Office Action has recently been received. Accompanying herewith is an IDS citing the references noted in the CIP application for the Examiner consideration and to be made of record in the present application.

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Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned representative should there be any issue remaining in this case that may be expeditiously resolved by way of a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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